

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—37).

Pages S2478–79

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 6:17 p.m., until 12 noon, on Thursday, March 11, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2533.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CROP INSURANCE

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee held hearings to examine the nature of risk management in agriculture and federal crop insurance programs, receiving testimony from Senator Grams; Joseph W. Glauber, Deputy Chief Economist, Department of Agriculture; Jerry R. Skees, University of Kentucky Department of Agricultural Economics, Lexington; Keith H. Coble, Mississippi State University, University; William W. Biedermann, Allendale, Inc., McHenry, Illinois; David A. Bossman, American Feed Industry Association, Arlington, Virginia; Gregg Doud, World Perspectives, Inc., Washington, D.C.; and Tom Coyle, Continental Grain, Chicago, Illinois, on behalf of the National Grain and Feed Association.

Hearings continue on Wednesday, March 17.

APPROPRIATIONS—JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION/JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE/OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000, after receiving testimony from Senator Roth, in behalf of funds for the Joint Committee on Taxation; Senator Mack, in behalf of funds for the Joint Economic Committee; and Ricky Silberman, in behalf of funds for the Office of Compliance.

APPROPRIATIONS—AMTRAK

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Related Agencies concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), focusing on issues relating to Amtrak's short- and long-term financial health, and the operational decisions which determine the railroad's present and future status, after receiving testimony from Kenneth M. Mead, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; George Warrington, President, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak); and Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, Madison, on behalf of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

APPROPRIATIONS—NAVY/MARINE CORPS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for Navy and Marine Corps programs, after receiving testimony from Richard Danzig, Secretary of the Navy; Adm. J.L. Johnson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; and Gen. C.C. Krulak, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on military installations and facilities, military construction, family housing, homeowners assistance fund, reserve base realignment and closure, and shore infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Randall A. Yim, Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations; Mahlon Apgar, IV, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment; Robert B. Pirie, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment; and Ruby B. DeMesme, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations, and Environment.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on tactical aviation modernization, and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, USAF, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense; Christopher Jehn, Assistant Director for National Security, Congressional Budget Office; and Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, Washington, D.C.

STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL LIFT

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower concluded hearings to examine strategic and tactical lift requirements versus capabilities, focusing on the environment of future conflicts, engagement and combat employment, equipment requirements, and the Defense Transportation System, after receiving testimony from Gen. Charles T. Robertson, Jr., USAF, Commander in Chief, United States Transportation Command; and Lt. Gen. Martin R. Steele, USMC, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, Policies, and Operations, Headquarters Marine Corps.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 303, to

amend the Communications Act of 1934 to enhance the ability of direct broadcast satellite and other multichannel video providers to compete effectively with cable television systems, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

MEDICARE FINANCIAL STATUS

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings to examine spending trends in the Medicare program, the impact on those trends of Medicare savings in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for Medicare, including the fifteen-percent surplus funding proposal, receiving testimony from Jacob J. Lew, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

Hearings continue on Thursday, March 18.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings to examine the current human rights situa-

tion in Cuba, focusing on Fidel Castro's recent crack-down on Cubans and independent journalists, U.S. support for dissidents, and the codification of the embargo, after receiving testimony from Frank Calzon, Center for a Free Cuba, Washington, D.C.; and Eloy Gutierrez-Menoyo, Cambio Cubano, Ruth Montaner, Internal Dissident Working Group, on behalf of the Cuban Dissidence Task Group, and Luis Zuniga, Foundation for Human Rights in Cuba, all of Miami, Florida.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee will meet again on Thursday, March 18.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 1048–1068; and 7 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 49–52 and H. Res. 105–107, were introduced.

Pages H1161–63

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 774, to amend the Small Business Act to change the conditions of participation and provide an authorization of appropriations for the women's business center program (H. Rept. 106–47);

H. Res. 103, providing for consideration of H. Con. Res. 42, regarding the use of United States Armed Forces as part of a NATO peacekeeping operation implementing a Kosovo peace agreement; (H. Rept. 106–48); and

H. Res. 104, providing for consideration of H.R. 819, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Maritime Commission for fiscal years 2000 and 2001; (H. Rept. 106–49).

Page H1161

Journal Vote: Agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea and nay vote of 356 yeas to 39 nays, Roll No. 34.

Pages H1075, H1079–80

Suspension—Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 540, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities as a result of a voluntary withdrawal from participation in the Medicaid Program which was debated on March 9: (passed

by yea and nay vote of 398 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 35).

Pages H1080–81

Dodson Montana School Districts Impact Aid:

The House passed S. 447, to deem as timely filed, and process for payment, the applications submitted by the Dodson School Districts for certain Impact Aid payments for fiscal year 1999—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H1088–89

Education Flexibility Partnership Act: The House completed debate and considered amendments to H.R. 800, to provide for education flexibility partnerships.

Pages H1089–H1136

Agreed To:

The Ehlers amendment, numbered 6 and printed in the Congressional Record, that requires each State educational agency insure that the purposes of the statutory requirements of each program, for which a waiver is granted, continue to be met (agreed to by a recorded vote of 406 yeas to 13 noes, Roll No. 38); and

Pages H1100–13

The Castle amendment, numbered 2 and printed in the Congressional Record, that strengthens accountability by clarifying reporting responsibilities by the states and includes specific performance data to demonstrate the degree to which progress has been made toward meeting objectives. Pages H1131–32

Rejected:

The Holt amendment to the Ehlers amendment that sought to require that each State educational